

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
BANKING, HOUSING, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR
AND PENSIONS
AGING

August 1, 2019

552

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

I am writing to express my concern about a possible interruption in telecommunications and Internet services that could affect my constituents.

Windstream Holdings Inc. (Windstream), a rural telecommunications and Internet service provider for many of my constituents, filed for bankruptcy on February 25, 2019. As a result of the bankruptcy proceedings, it is my understanding that Windstream is considering a termination of monthly lease payments to Uniti Group, an Alabama-based company that owns the copper and fiber cable that Windstream uses to deliver services. If this should happen, there is some concern that many of my constituents could lose their telecommunications and Internet service access.

Is the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) monitoring this situation? Are there any steps the FCC can take to protect consumers from a disruption of service?

I appreciate your dedication to ensuring telecommunication and Internet services for many Americans who live in rural areas, and look forward to working with you to ensure that my constituents receive access to these vital services.

Sincerely,



Doug Jones
United States Senator